

# the Chitimacha Newsletter



## *NOTES FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE*

Greetings,

Spring is here and with it comes the rebirth of all the foliage and trees and a renewal of life itself. The same is true for our Nation, as I've shared with you in the past couple of newsletters, some of what is renewed for us. What stands out most of all is the renewal of our gaming compact. This particular renewal has enabled us to begin a renewed effort in planning the future of our Nation. As with every successful endeavor of our leadership, we take the planning process very seriously. We know that with careful planning we are able to control our own destiny. Well, we are doing just that. Let's explore this a bit.

I have mentioned to you that a Tribal Council strategic planning retreat would be forthcoming. We have decided that a series of three meetings will be necessary to achieve our objective. The first meeting will be designed to reflect on the past and review the accomplishments since the last planning sessions, which incidentally, were held in 1996. Preliminary review shows that we have essentially accomplished in 6 years what we planned to do in 10. Also, at the first meeting, we will identify critical issues that exist for the Tribe now and in the near future. We will come to agree, as a Council, on the general approach to controlling the issues. The immediate objective, in short, is to agree on a mission and vision for our Nation.

In the next meeting we will develop strategies for achieving the vision and mission of the Tribe and establish some very tangible objectives for the future. As a result of this meeting, we will be focused on our goal.

Finally, the third meeting will focus much more on tactical steps. Specific action plans will be developed to achieve specific objectives that are in support of the strategies and vision that has been agreed upon. We feel that having a clear plan, laid out with timeframes, will enable us to take positive measurable steps.

This planning process is very important to our Nation. I clearly remember this process in 1996 and have witnessed the value of having such a plan. A similar plan has guided the development of such facilities as Yaamahana center, RiverCane and our medical clinic, to name a few. I clearly remember the "administrative" planning sessions held in 1988 resulting in many of the services we enjoy today. It is gratifying to have been an integral part of this over the past 14 years and exciting to visualize what the future

holds for our people.

I could not leave you this month without passing on one more thing: Some of you may wonder why all the talk of the “planning process” and nothing about projects. Well, it’s because we have been steadfast in the belief that it takes good planning to carry us through the challenges we face. Once the process begins, the Tribal Council will be prioritizing many projects that are being considered and will consider in the future. There are both good and not so good proposals made to us on a regular basis. Our charge as leaders is to do the best we can to sift through the offers and find the golden opportunities. I’ll stress this one more time, what has opened the door to our most recent opportunity is the renewal of our 7-year gaming compact. It affords us the ability to continue to plan for the next 10 years.

I leave you this month remembering something my dad always told me: “Don’t take no wooden nickels”

Until next month Huya Nito

### Resolutions for the Month of March

#05-01 Authorizes AI to sign the amended 2001 Roads Priority List for the purpose of establishing new roadway priorities for the future of the Tribe.

#06-01 Authorizes Toby to sign a contract with Lundin Roofing Company for a new roof on the Chitimacha Tribal School.

## News from the Chitimacha Police Department Ronald Vidalia, Chief of Police

### MARCH 2001

**D**uring the month of March, the following citations were issued: three for speeding and one each for driving with a suspended driver's license, running a stop sign, and not having proof of insurance in vehicle.

One arrest was logged for March 2001 for theft over \$500.00.

### NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATIONS WEEK April 8 to 14, 2001

The idea to designate a specific week to honor public safety telecommunicators was first conceived by Patricia Anderson of the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office, California, in 1981. The Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International was able to convince Congress of the need for a formal proclamation in October 1991. According to Congressional procedure, it was introduced twice more in 1993 and 1994, and then became permanent, without the need for yearly introduction.

Each year, the second week of April is dedicated to the men and women who serve as public safety telecommunicators. These people ensure the safety of millions of citizens every day by coordinating the appropriate response for each caller's need and offering immediate assistance to victims and responders alike.

Emergencies can occur at anytime that require police, fire or emergency medical services and when an emergency occurs the prompt response of police officers, firefighters and paramedics is critical to the protection of life and preservation of property. The safety of our police officers and firefighters is dependent upon the quality and accuracy of information obtained from citizens who telephone the police-fire communications center. Public Safety Dispatchers are the first and most critical contact our citizens have with emergency services and they are the single vital link for our police officers and firefighters by monitoring their activities by radio, providing them information and insuring their safety. Public Safety Dispatchers contribute substantially to the apprehension of criminals, suppression of fires and treatment of patients, while exhibiting compassion, understanding and professionalism during the performance of their job.

The Chitimacha Police Department employs five full-time dispatchers who as well as dispatching calls for the Chitimacha Police Department, also monitor the St. Mary Parish Sheriff's Office radio traffic and dispatch Chitimacha police officers when calls come in for assistance. Chitimacha police dispatchers are also responsible for receiving and dispatching emergency calls for the Charenton/Chitimacha Fire Department and the Baldwin Fire Department.



#### Chitimacha Police Department Dispatchers

From left to right: Gloria Henry (3 years, 3 months of service), Sara LaBiche (7 years, 3 months of service), Rosie Landry (5 years, 6 months of service), Beulah Dejean (1 year, 5 months of service) and Amy Hines (1 year, 10 months of service).

#### REMINDER TO ATV OWNERS/RIDERS

Contact Officer John Burgess to schedule your ATV Rider and Safety Course. Officer Burgess is a licensed Safety Institute ATV Instructor.

The Chitimacha Tribal Rules and Regulations pertaining to the ATV Track states—A person under 16 years of age must have successfully completed a *Chitimacha Tribe approved ATV training course* to operate on an ATV on *Chitimacha Reservation properties*. After the Chitimacha training course has been taken and the person has successfully completed the training, an identification sticker will be placed on the ATV. This identification sticker will show that the rider has completed an approved ATV riding course, and is allowed to ride on the track.

**CALL OFFICER JOHN BURGESS AT THE  
POLICE DEPARTMENT, 923-4964, TO  
SCHEDULE A COURSE.**

**WE WISH EVERYONE A HAPPY EASTER HOLIDAY!**

**TRIBAL COURT NEWS**  
**By Shirleen B. Fitzgerald,**  
**Tribal Courts Director**

*Well spring is here, and as always with spring, comes change. The Tribal Court would like to wish a fond farewell to Heather Sisk, who has left us to pursue her education full-time. Good luck Heather, we wish you well. We'd also like to welcome Hunter Burgess, who has joined the staff this month and has assumed the vacant Deputy Clerk position. Also, by decision and authorization of the Tribal Council, the word "INDIAN" has been removed from the Tribal Court title. With that comes a new court seal, stationary and/or pro se documents, etc. Therefore, please bear with us during this time.*

**CURRENT COURT STATISTICS:**

**MARCH:**

**CASES: (38)**

7 Civil Actions (6 Garnishments/1 Reg. Civil) 1 Traffic (Civil Infraction) 29 Domestic Relations (28 Petitions for Disbursement of Funds/1 Petition for Divorce) 1 Juvenile (Status Offender)

**MORTGAGES AND LIENS: (53)**

Assignments

**MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS: (02)**

(Payroll Advance Payback Agreements)

**COURT OF APPEALS: (00)**

**TOTAL ACTIONS PROCESSED  
IN MARCH, 2001  
(93)**

**CASES PENDING AS OF MARCH 1, 2001  
TRIAL COURT: (22)**

14	CIVIL
01	CRIMINAL
06	DOMESTIC RELATIONS
01	JUVENILE
00	TRAFFIC

**APPELLATE COURT: (00)**

**COURT SESSIONS:**

**TRIBAL TRIAL COURT:**

**MARCH:**

This month's session was conducted on March 20, 2001, at which time 12 matters were scheduled to be heard;

**(3) DOMESTIC RELATIONS**

(1 Status Conference on Partition of Community Property/ 2 Hear. on Petitions for Change in Custody)

**(8) CIVIL**

(1 Tort Preliminary hearing/ 1 Tort Hear. on Motions/ 1 Tort Trial on the Merits/1 Tort Pre-Trial Conference/1 Tort Rule to Show Cause/1 Judgment Debtor Rule/2 Hearings on Civil Complaints)

**(1) JUVENILE**

(Initial Hearing)

**NEXT REGULAR SESSION:**

Our next regular session is scheduled for April 10, 2001, with open session beginning at 10:00 a.m..

**APRIL JURY TRIALS:**

Our two week jury trial session is scheduled for April 17<sup>th</sup> thru 27<sup>th</sup>, 2001, however, currently there are no trials scheduled at this time.

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**NOTICE!!** The April 15<sup>th</sup> date to file your 2000 Federal taxes is soon approaching. Therefore, any "**Petitions for Disbursement of Funds**" for tax purposes only, that are filed after March, may require you to make whatever arrangements necessary, to avoid penalties from the IRS, due to the fact that the process takes a couple of weeks to be completed.

**As always, if you would like any further information regarding the Tribal Courts, please feel free to contact the Court at (337)923-7806; or come by anytime. We are located at 343 Navarro St., Chitimacha Reservation; and our regular office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Monday through Thursday, and 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Friday.**

## Chitimacha Fire Protection Rickey Cook, Chief

The Department would like to welcome Carlie Soprano to the staff. Carlie started her employment on March 19<sup>th</sup> and is doing well. Keep up the good work.

We would like to wish a speedy recovery to Archie Vilcan. Archie has put a lot of time into this department and it is greatly appreciated.

During the next month or so, you will be seeing members from the department doing hydrant maintenance. Throughout the district they will be testing all fire hydrants and will also be doing hose testing. This testing is required every six months.

Calls for the month of February 2001 totaled out to 47 compared to 26 last year at this time. There were 30 calls on the reservation, 12 calls in the Charenton area and 5 mutual aid calls.

	Reservation	Charenton	Mutual Aid
Med.	23(23-Casino)	7	1
Fire	0	3	4
Haz Mat	0	0	0
Veh. Acc.	0	1	0
Other	7	1	0

\*\* Other includes heavy lift , standbys, smoke investigation, fire drills @schools, building inspections)

There has been several different areas of training that has been accomplished lately by many members. The following is a list with who attended:

- \*Pump Operations (80 hour) at LSU- Marty Burgess & Lance Mire
- \*Haz Mat Awareness – George Graffeo & Pam Thibodeaux
- \*Fire Instructor I – Kenneth Perry
- \*CPR Instructor – Pam Thibodeaux
- \*EFL – Kenneth Perry, George Graffeo, Lance Mire, Marty Burgess, & Pam Thibodeaux
- \*Officer – Curt Cormier & Dawn Daigle
- \*Pump Operations (20 hours) – Dwayne Darden & George Graffeo

\*Structural Firefighting – Marty Burgess, Tanya Darden, David McCoy, Lance Mire & Pam Thibodeaux

\*EMT-Basic - Marty Burgess & Lance Mire

On April 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m., there will be a Bus Rescue & Extrication Drill. This drill will involve all of West St. Mary Parish Fire Departments. All members are urged to attend as this will be a very informative drill. The Charenton-Chitimacha Junior Firefighters will also be involved with this training.

There was a “Blood Drive held on March 15<sup>th</sup> at the Charenton-Chitimacha Fire Dept. We would like to thank everyone who helped to make this a success. United Blood Services has informed us that we were able to collect 22 pints on this drive. The United Blood Services says that for every pint they are able to help 3 people and with all of our help, they should be able to help approximately 66. Thanks again for your time in this and we will be having another drive at the end of August.

### Controlled Burns:

If you are planning to burn on your property, we ask that you call and advise the fire department. If we do not receive a call in advance and someone turns it in, the department will send a unit to investigate. By calling and giving the information in advance, it could help out should there be another emergency at that same time. Your help would be appreciated in this.

The time has changed and this is a friendly reminder:

Change batteries in smoke detectors and CO detectors. Remembering to do this could save your life as well as someone else's. Think safety.

Until next time..... ***“HAPPY EASTER”!***

## CHITMACHA HEALTH CLINIC

### DENTAL CLINIC

- + DENTAL CLINIC OPEN TWO DAYS A WEEK, WED. & THURS.), 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
- + CALL EARLENE TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT.
- + IF YOU CANNOT KEEP APPOINTMENT, PLEASE CANCEL IN "ADVANCE".

### CLINIC PHARMACY

- + PHARMACIST IN CLINIC MONDAY - FRIDAY (12:45 - 1:45 P.M.) & (5:45 - 6:45 P.M.)
- + CALL (337) 923-9955, EXT #3017
- + IF PHARMACIST IS NOT IN, LEAVE MESSAGE ON VOICE MAIL.
- + REQUEST REFILLS 3 - 5 DAYS IN ADVANCE
- + **THE PHARMACY WILL BE CLOSED APRIL 19, 20, AND 23<sup>RD</sup>.**
- + PLEASE CHECK MEDICATION TO ASSURE YOU HAVE ENOUGH ON HAND.

### CONTRACT HEALTH SERVICES

- + EMERGENCY ROOM VISITS MUST BE REPORTED TO MILDRED WITHIN 72 HOURS.
- + FAILURE TO PROVIDE NOTIFICATION MAY RESULT IN DENIAL OF PAYMENT.
- + FOR SCHEDULED APPT OUTSIDE THE CLINIC, PICK UP PURCHASE ORDER "FORM".

### CLINIC PHYSICIAN VISITS

- + **CLINIC HOURS/PATIENT CARE:** MON., TUES., & THURS. FROM 9:00 - 5:00 P.M.
- + WEDNESDAY FROM 10:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.
- + FRIDAY FROM 8:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

### IMMUNIZATIONS

- + IMMUNIZATIONS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE CLINIC.
- + PLEASE MAKE AN APPOINTMENT FOR IMMUNIZATIONS.

If you have any questions, call Madeline Phelps @ 337-923-9955, Ext. # 3016.  
Regular business hours: Open Mon - Thurs, 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Friday from 7:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

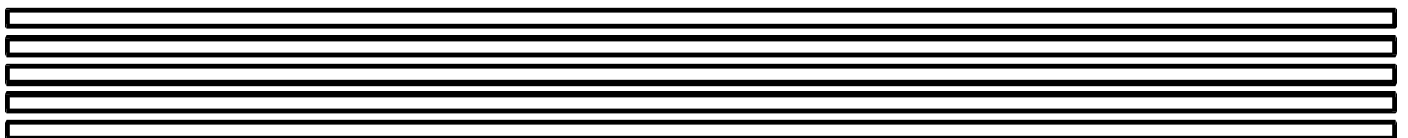


# **Cooking Class**

**Wed., May 2, 2001**

**5:30 p.m - 7:00 p.m.**

**Health Clinic**



# **STOP DIABETES IN IT'S TRACKS!!! ITS ALL UP TO YOU**

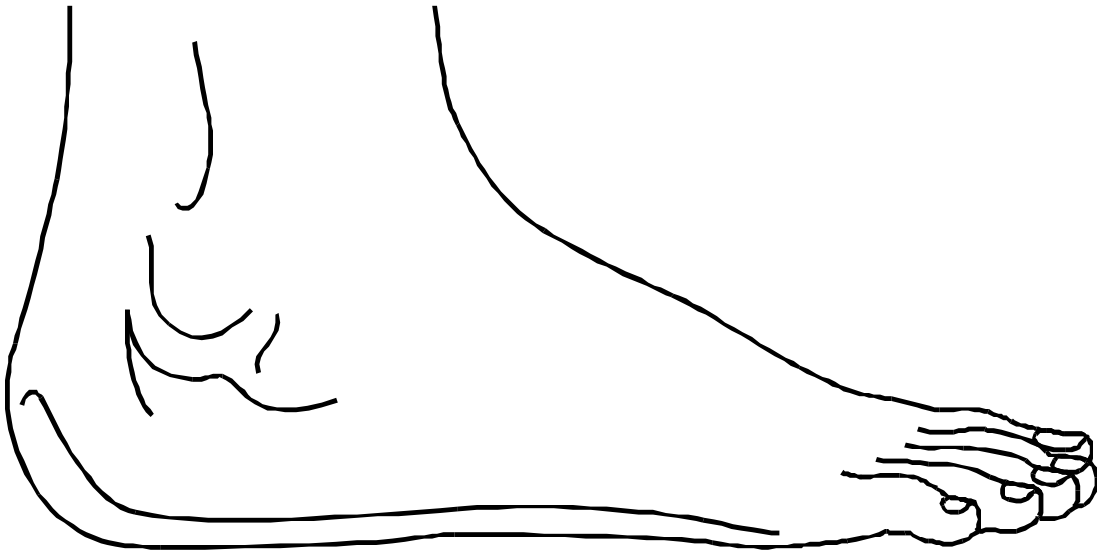
## **Morning Foot Screening**

**When? - Thursday, June 7, 2001**

**Time? - 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.**

**Where? - Health Clinic**

**Who's invited? - Only persons who currently have diabetes.**



**Free Foot Screening  
Free Prizes to all who participate  
Free Refreshments  
Free Diabetes/Foot Care Information**



# **POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT**

## **SUBSTITUTE / TEMPORARY WORKERS NEEDED**

**This is going to be an on-call list and the pay will vary according to the duties.**

### **FOR THE FOLLOWING AREAS:**

- \* Secretary/Receptionist
- \* Substitute Teacher
  - Chitimacha Tribal School
  - Early Learning Center
- \* Substitute Cook
  - Chitimacha Tribal School
  - Early Learning Center
  - RiverCane
- \* Substitute Museum Interpreter
- \* Substitute Janitor (Public Works Department)

### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

- ✓ High School diploma or GED

- ✧ **PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO QUALIFIED NATIVE AMERICANS .**
- ✧ **THIS IS A SAFETY-SENSITIVE POSITION AND IS SUBJECT TO RANDOM DRUG TESTING.**
- ✧ **A BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION WILL BE CONDUCTED**

**TO APPLY:** Please submit resume to Human Resource Department at 105 Houma Drive or by mail to the address below.

**“Substitute /Temporary Workers”  
Human Resource Department  
Chitimacha Tribe of LA  
P.O. Box 661  
Charenton, LA 70523**

## **Tribal School News**

### **March 5<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>**

**K**indergarteners have been learning about Louisiana. We had a Cajun Café set up in our dramatic play center. In the art center, we decorated shoe box floats and made Mardi Gras masks. In the science center, we examined crawfish mud houses. One of our math activities was to play a Louisiana board game. When we got to the finish line, we won Mardi Gras beads. In the discovery center, we had a mixture of dried red beans, rice, and salt. Our job was to use tools to separate the mixture into separate components; red beans in one container, rice in another, and salt in a third container. In the writing center, we wrote stories about crabs in crab-shaped booklets. We had lots of fun!

Ms. Monique's 6<sup>th</sup> graders have been learning about ratios in math. For science we are studying earthquakes and mountain formation. Seventh and eighth graders have been learning about integers in math. They have been learning about ecosystems in science.

On February 15<sup>th</sup>, Chitimacha Tribal School held its first Family Math & Science night. Participants were able to view the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade science projects, play math and science games at the activity centers, and/or enjoy some refreshments. Those who participated enjoyed the fun and games. Thanks to all who came!

Ms. Phyllis' first grade class is reading better and better, proving that we read a lot, and we read everyday. They have just finished learning how to write thank-you letters. We are ready to learn how to use describing words or adjectives to make our

stories more exciting. The first graders are counting money in our classroom Chitimacha Store. We can also use the adding machine to add and subtract prices. We are anxious to start telling time to the hour and to the half hour. We have almost completed our study of matter. We know many properties of solids, liquids, and gases and can compare them. Friday, we plan to make salt maps of our country's landforms and bodies of water. Next week, we will paint the maps and make a map key. Tuesday, we had our pizza lunch in the park that we earned for collecting the most Community Coffee labels. Everyone had a good time. Our Mardi Gras parade was especially enjoyed by the first and second grade Leprechauns on the Ireland float. We won first prize. Yea! Yea! The first grade star for the month of March is Taylor Darden. She likes to learn, and is proud of herself for being nice to people. When she grows up, Taylor wants to be a doctor. She likes knowing she is special, because God made us all different.

Everyone is gearing up for the LEAP and IOWA tests that we will be taking next week. We have been preparing for the tests by practicing various skills and strategies. We are anxious to get through this very important week. Good luck to all students! Do your best and think positive!

### **March 19<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Ms. Keeri's 5<sup>th</sup> graders have been learning about the American Revolution in Social Studies. Next they're going to talk about the Constitution. In Science, they're starting on a unit about matter. They have been diagramming sentences using the parts of speech in English. In Math they have been

practicing long division. The 3<sup>rd</sup> nine weeks are over- only one more to go. Testing is over so we got a few extended recesses and 30 minutes of fun on Friday for doing our best and coming to school on time everyday.

Ms. Debbie's second graders are reading "The Empty Pot." It is about a King who is looking for a successor. Every child is given a seed and told to do their best work in a years time. In our class, we will be planting bean seeds and keeping track of their growth. We will observe flowers and their parts. We will learn the basic parts of a plant and the function of each part. We will do an experiment to see if seeds need soil to grow. In Math we are working with measurement. We are using non-standard units to measure things in our classroom. We will use different kinds of seeds to measure objects. In Language Arts we will learn how to write a narrative paragraph. We will write a main-idea sentence and several detail sentences. After writing our final copy, we will share our narrative paragraph with the class.

Ms. Beth's 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts classes have been busy preparing for LEAP and IOWA testing, which they completed last week. Students have been learning about adverbs, prepositional phrases, conjunctions, and interjections in their English classes, while having fun diagramming sentences using these parts of speech. The Accelerated Reading Program has really taken off since the beginning of the nine weeks, and many students have made considerable strides in earning points by reading in their spare time. Ms. Beth also reads to the students each day in Reading class and students are allowed to take a computerized test afterwards to earn even more Accelerated Reading points.

Darrell Toups, an eighth grade student at CTS, earned the honor of being Student of the Week. Congratulations Darrell!

Ms. Michelle's 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders have been learning about different habitats. Each of the students chose a different habitat to construct using clay, paint, water, dirt, sticks, or whatever they needed to create their habitat. They included the living and nonliving things that were part of their habitat. They did a great job! The students are very relieved that the LEAP and IOWA tests are over. They really worked hard preparing for the tests and did their best when taking the tests. We have a new student in our third grade class, Jesse Dautreuil. We would like to welcome him to our class and our school. We are glad to have you, Jesse. Fourth grade Star of the Week is Magdeline Darden. Congratulations, Maggie!

### **March 26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>**

Ms. Michelle's 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders are learning about the nine planets in science. Each student is researching a particular planet and will share their findings with the rest of the class. We will make models of the solar system. We will "take a trip" to each of the planets and figure out the distances from Earth. We will also learn about the various discoveries that have been made concerning the solar system.

Students that have earned an A or B average in conduct for the third nine weeks will participate in "A Sunny Delight." They will play some organized games to celebrate their hard work. Kindergarten through fourth grade will have their treat on Thursday, March 29 and fifth through eighth grade will have theirs on Friday, March 30. Keep up the great job everyone!



# CHITIMACHA TRIBAL SCHOOL

## REGISTRATION

The Chitimacha Tribal School is presently holding  
registration for new students  
for the 2001-2002 school year.

### **Registration documents needed:**

Birth Certificate  
Social Security Card  
Immunization Record

Please come by the office to register your child.

**We especially encourage parents of students  
who will be entering Kindergarten in August  
to come in at your earliest convenience.**

If you have any questions, just give us a call at 923-9960.

**CHITIMACHA TRIBAL SCHOOL**  
**DAILY MENU SCHEDULE**  
**APRIL, 2001**

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>
<b>April 2, 2001</b> Breakfast Cereal, Hash Browns, Juice, Milk <b>Lunch</b> Spaghetti, Egg/Lettuce Salad, Pineapple, Roll, Milk	<b>April 3, 2001</b> <b>Breakfast</b> Waffles, Ham, Juice, Milk <b>Lunch</b> Pork Fritters, Creamed Potatoes, Beets, Fruit, Roll, Milk	<b>April 4, 2001</b> <b>Breakfast</b> Eggs, Sausage Links, Juice, Milk <b>Lunch</b> Baked Chicken, Macaroni & Cheese, Fruit, Roll, Milk	<b>April 4, 2001</b> <b>Breakfast</b> Biscuit, Sausage, Cereal, Fruit, Turkey Ham, Juice, Milk <b>Lunch</b> Ham Sandwich, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Fruit, Cookie, Cake, Milk	<b>April 6, 2001</b> <b>NO SCHOOL –</b>  <b>TEACHER</b> <b>IN-SERVICE</b>
<b>April 9, 2001</b> <b>Breakfast</b> Cereal, Hash Brown, Juice, Milk <b>Lunch</b> Chili Fritos, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Fruit, Cornbread Muffin, Milk	<b>April 10, 2001</b> <b>Breakfast</b> French Toast, Juice, Milk <b>Lunch</b> Chicken Tenders, Baked Potatoes, Fruit, Roll, Milk	<b>April 11, 2001</b> <b>Breakfast</b> Danish, Juice, Milk <b>Lunch</b> Pork Roast, Rice, Blackeye Peas, Fruit, Roll, Milk	<b>April 12, 2001</b> <b>Breakfast</b> Biscuit, Sausage, Juice, Milk <b>Lunch</b> Ham & Cheese Buddies, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Fruit, Cookie, Milk	<b>April 13, 2001</b>  <b>Good Friday –</b> <b>School</b> <b>Holiday</b>
<b>April 16, 2001</b>  <b>Spring Break!</b>	<b>April 17, 2001</b>  <b>Spring Break!</b>	<b>April 18, 2001</b>  <b>Spring Break!</b>	<b>April 19, 2001</b>  <b>Spring Break!</b>	<b>April 20, 2001</b>  <b>Spring Break!</b>
<b>April 23, 2001</b> <b>Breakfast</b> Cereal, Toast Sticks, Juice, Milk <b>Lunch</b> Red Beans, Rice, Sausage, Salad, Fruit, Milk	<b>April 24, 2001</b> <b>Breakfast</b> Pancakes, Sausage Links, Juice, Milk <b>Lunch</b> Chicken Nuggets, Creamed Potatoes, Roll, Fruit, Milk	<b>April 25, 2001</b> <b>Breakfast</b> English Muffin, Ham, Juice, Milk <b>Lunch</b> Hamburger Steak, Macaroni & Cheese, Salad, Fruit, Milk	<b>April 26, 2001</b> <b>Breakfast</b> Oatmeal, Toast, Juice, Milk <b>Lunch</b> Pork Roast & Gravy, Rice, Creamed Corn, Jello, Fruit, Milk	<b>April 27, 2001</b> <b>Breakfast</b> Biscuit, Sausage, Juice, Milk <b>Lunch</b> Sloppy Joes, Salad, Fruit, Cookie, Milk
<b>April 30, 2001</b> <b>Breakfast</b> Cereal, Hash Brown, Juice, Milk <b>Lunch</b> Chili Mac, Sweet Peas, Fruit, Roll, Milk	<b>May 1, 2001</b> <b>Breakfast</b> Cinnamon Bun, Juice, Milk <b>Lunch</b> Beef Tips, Rice & Gravy, Corn, Fruit, Roll, Milk	<b>May 2, 2001</b> <b>Breakfast</b> Cheese Toast, Juice, Milk <b>Lunch</b> Chicken Fritters, Bun, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Fruit, Cupcake, Milk	<b>May 3, 2001</b> <b>Breakfast</b> Grits, Sausage, Juice, Milk <b>Lunch</b> Pork Chops, Cheese Potatoes, Fruit, Roll, Milk	<b>May 4, 2001</b> <b>Breakfast</b> Biscuit, Sausage, Juice, Milk <b>Lunch</b> Nachos, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Fruit, Cornbread, Milk

**APRIL CALENDAR**

Apr. 5 <sup>th</sup> -	Diabetes Breakfast for Students and Parents
Apr. 6 <sup>th</sup> -	NO SCHOOL - Staff In-Service
Apr. 12 <sup>th</sup> -	Spring Pictures - EARLY DISMISSAL 1:00 p.m.
Apr. 13 <sup>th</sup> - Apr. 20 <sup>th</sup> -	SPRING BREAK
Apr. 24 <sup>th</sup> -	End of Fourth Mid-Nine Weeks
Apr. 27 <sup>th</sup> -	Fourth Mid-Nine Week Progress Reports Go Home

**Yaamahana News**  
**Tracie Fails, Director**

**H**ello from "Little People" land. We are excited to announce that we placed honorable mention in the Mardi Gras parade. Thanks so much to Randy and Ashley Hebert who put in several hours of their time framing our float.

Yaamahana held it's second Parent-Provider Night March 27, 2001 on campus. Thanks to all that were able to attend. The parents visited with the providers on the progression that their child is making.

We have a busy month in April and have a few field trips planned. Our weekly units are as follows:

April 2-6: Planting, gardening, and new growth

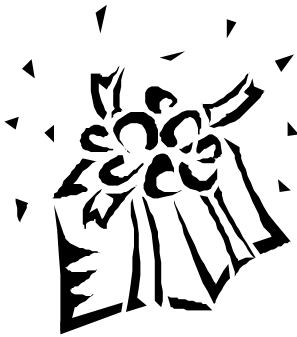
April 9-12: Easter celebration

April 12: Easter egg hunt @ 2:45

April 16- 27: Zoo animals

April 27: Field trip to the Zoo of Acadiana

Pre-K will be making transition trips to the Tribal School.



Birthdays for the Month are:  
Ms. Holly Vilcan  
Chase Cormier

We are in need of donations from each family: 1 bag of potting soil and two to three packets of flower seeds. The children will be planting these in the back atrium.

The parents are also asked to donate 12 plastic eggs and two bags of soft and chewable candy. These will be used in the easter egg hunt!!

We are pleased to announce that we had an in-house promotion to Ms. Angela Bobbit. She has promoted from part time to full time. This is well deserved. Thanks for the hard work Angela. We also will add a new staff member in the near future. This young lady is Amanda Sisk. We are pleased to have her aboard. Welcome Ms. Amanda!

Please remember that any person that is 18 or older, can pass a background check and loves children, can apply for the substitute position. An application can be picked up at the Human Resource Department. Please see Bethany or Sally for your packet.

The close of our first year is drawing to an end. It has been very rewarding watching so many babies grow to infants and infants to toddlers but the most rewarding has been the growth of the Pre-K class. Ms. Fran Bonin has worked very hard this year along with her assistant Ms. Adrienne Cook. They have strived to see that these children will have basic skills to take with them to Kindergarten.

We are planning to have a Pre-K graduation on June 1, 2001 at the Chitimacha Tribal School. The ceremony will be at 10:00 am and a Hawaiian luau will follow at Yaamahana. Family and friends are invited. We will be sending each family tickets that will need to be presented at the door. This is so we can have a count for the food being served. Hope to see you there!!!

We would like to extend a special prayer for one of our employees: Mrs. Rachel Dugas, your father, Archie Vilcan is in our hearts and prayers. God bless you and your family.

## Recreation News Billy/Jeri St. Blanc

The month of March was an active month for many of the Tribal members and their employees. The participation in fitness activities has increased greatly. Every Wednesday at noon we have a Power Lunch which combines a healthy lunch with some light exercise and notes on fitness and nutrition. The early morning crew of exercises has also increased in size and intensity. A couple of brave souls are training for an Adventure Course Race to be held in the Atchafalaya Basin in May.

This race includes a 6 mile run,



a 10 mile canoe paddle



and a 20 mile bicycle ride



Also... mystery events and self navigation... should be something to witness! We also have a new "AB Machine" for your use, so come on in and work on your "six pack" abs.

The Recreation Department held training for First Aid and CPR Certifications. The courses, taught by Jeri and Pat Gutierrez and aided by Tammy, were very successful. A total of 33 employees and community members participated in CPR classes and 18 in First Aid classes. They learned some valuable

information that we hope won't come in handy anytime soon.

Track and Field practice has started and the kids are ready for their first meet this weekend in Delcambre. One of our former runners and tribal member, Jolby Schexnayder will be competing for the Delcambre team since he has moved there this spring. Having talked to his coaches, he is doing very well. He is on two relay teams and in two field events. More on track in next months newsletter.

Also this weekend coming up will be the Relay for Life event in Franklin. We will have more info on that next month as well.

Baseball sign ups are complete and we are ready to start playing ball with the adults starting in May, and everyone else starts in June. Good Luck, and if you are not playing and see the new lights on at the Sports Complex, come by and watch. It should be fun for all who attend.

The cover comes off the pool next week. We will clean it up and balance the water for a limited opening of family swimming during Spring break on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Hours will be limited and the family Swimming policies will be in effect. No life guards will be on duty until we get back from our training out of state. Jeri, Tammy and I will all be out of town all that week. Call or come by for specific hours and policies that will be in effect.

Registration for Swimming Lessons and Swim Team will begin on April 23 and continue for a week. Please mark your schedules and remember to sign up! Also sign up for golf lessons, if you are interested.

***News From the Past***  
**By Melanie Aymond**

This past week, Roger Stouff, Kim Walden and I, along with our boat driver/guide, went to a Chitimacha mound site in the Iberia Parish area. What we discovered was a major burial site, with mounds as high as fifteen feet and extensive amounts of shell involvement in the entire mound area. This mound site is an important part of your culture, being a major burial area for the tribe. Roger Stouff had heard of this mound from a friend of his and reported it to us. As is our practice, we immediately went to check the site, so that it can be properly recorded in our archives, as well as with the state. By doing this, the mound site is protected by State burial laws as well as applicable Federal laws.

Upon return, we immediately contacted our regional archaeologist, Dr. Chip McGimsey, who checked his records. The site was recorded in 1969 with the State. A vast amount of study was done on this mound site area, showing that it has an occupational history of at least 2,500 years, or six time periods. The important part of the study proved that it had been occupied/used from early mound building beginnings until the mound-building period had almost stopped. The next step in the process will be to revisit the site with Dr. McGimsey to update the State records. The more information listed in archaeological state records, the more protection afforded the site.

We thank Roger Stouff for his dedication to the Chitimacha culture. It would be appreciated if tribal members with knowledge of mound sites/cultural areas would report this information to our department for investigation. Unfortunately, not all of the Chitimacha cultural sites are recorded. We are constantly researching, visiting, and recording all reports of cultural sites in order to protect them by registering them with the State. All unrecorded sites are subject to vandalism/pot hunting, as Roger alludes to in the following article.

This article was published in the Banner Tribune on March 28, 2001 in his column "From the Other Side". We were so impressed with his article that we felt that all tribal members should have the opportunity to read it.

***From the Other Side***  
**By Roger Stouff**  
(From the Banner Tribune)

Chill air stung my skin as the boat made its way down the maze of winding bayous. There was little to see, really, and I found myself grateful that my guide knew his way for I would have been hopelessly lost within minutes of our departure from the landing.

We were on our way to see a piece of history. My history, and your history. But we were to find something much more important.

A local resident had told me about a place he knew. By all descriptions, it was prehistoric. I contacted the Chitimacha Cultural Department, and after a little wrangling with scheduling, the four of us went out in the boat, not knowing what to expect, not even sure if it was a site that had already been identified.

It emerged from a bank of the bayou, a long finger of white clamshell. Much larger than I had thought it would be, my interest was further heightened.

Clamshell crunched beneath the bow of the boat as aluminum touched the mound. We dis-boarded, and already fragments of pottery strewn across the bank caught our eye. Most were plain, unadorned, indicating a relatively recent time frame. Later pieces indicated a much older era.

We climbed the first, gentle slope of the mound, and above, in places where the roots of trees and the activities of burrowing animals were most prominent, the significance of the site became all too clear.

At first it was a splinter here, a section there. But the more we looked, the more we found: Ancestors, human beings who once walked the earth and laughed under the cypress and slept under the same stars as you and I, their bones unearthed by the movement of nature. We had come to check an undocumented site and found a cemetery.

Of the four of us, two were Chitimacha, and we offered tobacco to each ancestor whose remains were exposed. We touched none, disturbed none, but the tobacco sprinkled freely, abundantly, until it was clear there would not be enough tobacco to honor them all.



Farther down the finger of the site, we climbed an incredibly high slope to the top of what must have been the pinnacle of the mound. There, in the center of the apex, was a huge, hollow pit. Bottles were scattered about, garbage here and there, signs of modern intrusion and an unspeakable, bitter truth.

Someone had been here before us. Someone who had excavated a large section of the mound in search of...what? There is no gold here. No jewels. No buried pirate treasure. What could they have hoped to find there on that isolated shell bank?

I don't know. But I am sure what they did find. Perhaps a few pottery shards for them to show to their friends and brag over around the barbecue pit on Sunday afternoons while drinking more beer. Maybe to frame and hang on the wall of a living room next to the television set. But that's not all. I am sure they "found" the scant remains of human beings in that hellish pit.

We surveyed the rest of the mound, and the euphoria of the discovery and our plans to contact the state archaeologists veiled the truer feelings inside me, the feelings that did not emerge until much later, when I was home. Then the anger began to set in, and the anger was fanned by mourning into a tsunami of rage.

What, do you think, would anyone feel if they went to any cemetery around here, or anywhere in the nation, and found a huge pit, the perimeter strewn about with trash? How do you think it would make them feel? Violated? Dishonored? Furious? They would curse the filthy grave-robbers, vow that God would punish them for their sins against the dead, ban them to the deepest realms of hell.

Yet, if someone digs into the mound of a 1,500 year old Chitimacha burial area, we don't consider it the same thing, somehow. Why is that? Because it is from the past, and the past is unimportant? Because it is disconnected from us? Because we cannot make a personal connection in our minds and our hearts to the people buried there?

Or is it because, in some fashion or another, the bones pulled from the pit are, still today, somehow not quite human? Not quite equal? Not, to be blunt, as good as the rest of us? Am I only part human being then? Is the part of me that finds its way back to the people who built and buried their dead in that mound not human and not worthy of the same respect, honor and dignity that my other ancestors buried in the church cemeteries are due?

Atop that mound, in the sight of our ancestors, the two of us who were Chitimacha were appalled and stricken. The two of us who were not Chitimacha were appalled and stricken at the indecency and horror of what had been done.

*These are the pale deaths*

*Which men miscall their lives*

*For all the scent of green things growing*

*Each breath is but an exhalation of the grave*

*Bodies jerk like puppet corpses*

*And hell walks laughing-*

This is why Native nations such as ourselves so jealously guard our cultural heritage. This is why anytime something is uncovered someone must be notified. This is why highways go out of the way to avoid a burial ground. Just think of the terms we use about it; "burial ground". Not graveyard. Not cemetery. "Burial ground". Very cold, very sterile, a descriptive phrase with no emotion attached. Not quite human. Not quite as good as the rest of us.

There are wonderful people who, like our guide that day, wish to see such places protected and unviolated. But there are far too many more that see our old places, our special sacred places, as some amusement park for their enjoyment, something to be picked through for souvenirs and trinkets.

So I sit in the living room that night, and I swallow down the rage like a lump of hot coal, feel it burning down my throat, where it lodges just next to my heart. I feel not quite human. Not quite as good as everybody else. Perhaps in a few centuries someone will find where my bones lay and poke through them in search of treasures or conversation pieces. Perhaps the sterling silver ring on my finger, made by the Navajo, will be that special prize they search for among the graves.

Or maybe somebody will poke through your bones. Or maybe through your ancestors' bones.

There is no mention in this column of where this site was, and there will not be. Ever. The Chitimacha Nation jealously guards its heritage locations because of just what I'm speaking of here. Looters, grave-robbers, pothunters. The shame of it has forced us into clandestine secrecy.

Hell walks laughing. And it carries a shovel.

**Human Services News**  
**Amy B. Simon - Case Manager**

I am very happy to announce that Karen Matthews will be starting on April 9, 2001 as the new Human/Social Director. We are very lucky to have been able to get her to work with the Tribe as she has many years of experience in the Social Service Field with St. Mary Parish. I would like to invite everyone to come by the Human/Social Service Department to meet Karen when your schedule permits. I am sure she will be a great addition for the Tribe as well as for the community.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month across the United States. This month activities are carried out to focus attention on child abuse and prevention. We are asking everyone to please wear a blue ribbon or tie one to your care antenna to let others know you are against child abuse. Many people are not aware of the different types of child abuse that exist. The types are as follows:

**Physical Abuse** - this is the most common because it can be seen. A non-accidental injury inflicted on the child by the parent or caretaker.

**Sexual Abuse** - involves fondling, allowing children to watch sexual acts, inappropriate touching or making the child touch for sexual gratification, in addition to the sexual act itself.

**Neglect** - this is when parents or caretakers do not provide the basic needs of a child such as adequate food, clothing, and shelter.

**Emotional Abuse** - when the parent or caretaker fails to provide for the appropriate emotional developmental needs of a child, by using a words to hurt.

This is the month to reflect on the way children are thought of and treated in our society today. Look around and see what will be our future if we continue to treat our children this way. Children watch what we do, not just what we say. I found an interesting poem in the newspaper that I thought everyone might find equally as interesting.

**"Today"**  
**By Henry Matthew Ward**

When I got mad and hit my child  
"For his own good," I reconciled,  
And then, I realized my plight...  
Today I taught my child to fight.  
When interrupted by the phone,  
I said, "Tell them I'm not at home."  
And then I thought, and had to sigh...  
Today, I taught my child to lie.  
I told the tax man what I made,  
Forgetting cash that I was paid;  
And then I blushed at his sad feat...  
Today, I taught my child to cheat.

I smugly copied a cassette,  
To keep me free of one more debt.  
But now the bells of shame must peal...  
Today, I taught my child to steal.  
Today, I cursed another race.  
Oh God, protect what I debase  
For now, I fear it is too late...  
Today, I taught my child to hate.

By my example, children learn  
That I must lead life's sojourn  
In such a way that they are led  
By what is done, not what is said.  
Today, I gave my child his due  
By praises for him instead of rue.  
And now I have begun my guide:  
Today, I gave my child his pride.

I now have reconciled and paid  
To IRS on all I have made.  
And now I know that this dear youth  
Today has learned from me, of truth.  
The alms I give are not for show,  
And yet, this child must surely know  
That charity is worth the price...  
Today, he saw my sacrifice.

I clasp within a warm embrace  
My neighbor of another race—  
The great commandment from above...  
Today, I taught my child to love.  
Someday, my child must face alone  
This world of fearsome undertone,  
But I have blazed a sure pathway...  
Today, I taught my child...to pray.



## **Development Department News Small Business Administration Financing Programs**



If you have a good idea for a new business or are in need of some financing to grow your business and would like to explore the possibilities

for financing, the SBA might have a program that will help you. The SBA was created to assist first-time and small business owners in obtaining financing for new business start-ups or growth. Because it is sometimes difficult for new and small businesses to obtain financing, the SBA offers a wide variety of programs that can assist the borrower with resources to funding at competitive and attractive terms.

There are several programs that are of great benefit to the borrower. One in particular is the SBA "Low Doc" program. This program assists the borrower by guaranteeing up to 85% of the total amount of the loan. Due to the perceived risk of new and expanding business, the participant, or local bank, would be more inclined to loan the funds with an 85% guarantee from the SBA. This Guarantee provides a level of safety to the lender by guaranteeing up to 85% of the loan, thereby reducing the risk to the lender in case of default on the loan. This makes the lending institution more likely to loan to new and expanding small business and usually provides the customer with more favorable financing terms.

Another important benefit of the Low Doc program is that the SBA requires the lending institution to provide terms to the borrower that are competitive with current market rates. In conventional financing, the maturity period for a loan, for a new or expanding business, would most likely be short and the interest rate would be higher than normal. The SBA will work with the bank in an attempt to make the maturity of the loan match the useful life of the items to be financed. This extends the maturity period for the loan and frees up available cash for day-to-day operations of the business. Finally, one of the most important features of the Low Doc program is that because of the 85% guarantee by the SBA to the lending institution, the borrower usually receives a competitive interest rate.

Qualifying for this loan program is easier than you think. Once you meet the requirements from the local lender, you can request the SBA Low Doc Guarantee. As with conventional financing, the borrower may be required to pledge personal or business assets to provide collateral for the loan, however, loans are not declined when inadequate collateral is the only unfavorable factor. The maximum loan amount for the Low Doc program is \$150,000 and after completion of the application, the SBA is required to issue a response within 36 hours.

If you have any questions, please feel free to stop by or call the Tribal Development Office @ 923-4000. Thank You.

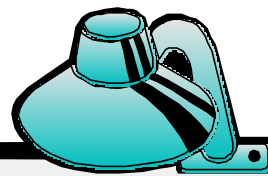
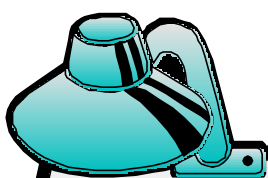
Brian Headley

# SOVEREIGN NATION OF THE CHITIMACHA

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### APRIL 2001

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5 Diabetes Breakfast for Tribal School Students & Parents	6 No School... Teacher In-Service	7
8	9	10	11	12 Tribal School Spring Pictures	13 Tribal School Spring Break  Tribal Offices Closed	14
15	16 Tribal School Spring Break  Tribal Offices Closed	17 Tribal School Spring Break	18 Tribal School Spring Break	19 Tribal School Spring Break  Pharmacy Closed	20 Tribal School Spring Break  Pharmacy Closed	21
22	23 Swim Lessons & Swim Team Registrations  Pharmacy Closed	24 Swim Lessons & Swim Team Registrations	25 Swim Lessons & Swim Team Registrations	26 Swim Lessons & Swim Team Registrations	27 Swim Lessons & Swim Team Registrations	28
29	30 Child Care Development Fund Plan Hearing 2:00 p.m.	May 1	May 2 Cooking Class 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	May 3	May 4	May 5



## COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Call Jackie @ 318 923-4973 to place an Ad

**DIABETES DAY**  
@  
**CHITIMACHA TRIBAL SCHOOL**  
**THURSDAY, APRIL 5**

**It's a Girl!!! Greg did it!!!**  
*(Not by himself, of course!!!)*

A baby girl was born to  
Greg & Wendy Waguespack  
on 4/2/01 @ 11:50 a.m.  
7 lbs. 2 ozs.

A public hearing to discuss the Child  
Care Development Fund Plan  
for Fiscal Year 2001 will be held at the  
Multipurpose building on  
the Chitimacha Reservation on April  
30, 2001 at 2:00 p.m. Please come.

Swimming Lessons and Swimming Team Registration  
April 23, 2001 - April 27, 2001  
during regular scheduled hours at  
Fitness Center  
Call 923-4975

### INVITATION!!!

We want to invite the people of the Reservation to  
attend the wedding of  
**Niecy Martin and Jason Hebert**  
on  
April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2001 at 3:00 p.m.  
The wedding will be at the home of Lou Martin and  
the reception is in the Chitimacha Park Pavilion.

